Brent O. Hatch (5715)

hatch@hatchpc.com

Tyler V. Snow (12668)

snow@hatchpc.com

HATCH LAW GROUP PC

22 East 100 South, Suite 400 Salt Lake City, Utah 84111 Telephone: (801) 869-1919

Counsel for Defendant

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF UTAH, CENTRAL DIVISION

ROBERT AND RENEE WAAS, individuals,

Plaintiffs,

v.

RED LEDGES LAND DEVELOPMENT INC., a Florida corporation, an individual,

Defendant.

DECLARATION OF BRENT O. HATCH IN SUPPORT OF STATEMENT OF SUPPLEMENTAL ATTORNEY FEES AND EXPENSES AND MOTION TO AMEND JUDGMENT

Case No. 2:20-CV-00580-TC

Judge Tena Campbell

- I, Brent O. Hatch, hereby declare and state as follows:
- 1. I am an individual over the age of eighteen (18) and am competent to testify to the matters set forth herein. If called as a witness, I could and would testify from my own personal knowledge regarding the matters set forth in this Declaration.
- 2. This Declaration is provided for the purpose of supporting Red Ledges' Statement of Supplemental Attorney Fees and Expenses and Motion to Amend Judgment (the "Motion").

- 3. I am licensed by the State of Utah to practice law, I am admitted to practice before this Court, and I have been practicing law for more than 36 years. I have extensive litigation and trial experience, particularly in complex civil matters, and involving disputes such as those involved in this case.
 - 4. I am the managing partner at Hatch Law Group PC ("Hatch Law Group").
- 5. I have personal knowledge of the involvement of Hatch Law Group in performing legal services for Defendant Red Ledges Land Development, Inc. ("Red Ledges") in connection with the above-captioned case. I am the partner in charge of this engagement. I have the overall responsibility for all billing at Hatch Law Group, including the preparation and maintenance of billing records.
- 6. For the attorney fees sought in this case, I have billed my time at the rate of \$650 per hour. This is reduced from my standard hourly rate of \$750.
- 7. In addition to myself, Tyler V. Snow, a senior attorney at Hatch Law Group, assisted me in defending the claims asserted by Plaintiffs. Mr. Snow was licensed by the State of Utah to practice law and was admitted to practice before this Court at all relevant times, and billed at the rate of \$400 per hour.
- 8. I was also assisted by certain support staff at Hatch Law Group, including Grace Bronchella, a paralegal, who billed at the rate of \$125 per hour.
- 9. The personnel at Hatch Law Group who assisted on this case have experience and expertise in litigating claims of the type at issue in this case.
- 10. Based on my experience and expertise, the complexity of these matters, the amount of damages alleged by Plaintiffs, and the work that was necessary to establish Red Ledges' right

to, and the reasonableness of, fees and costs, I believe the above-mentioned billing rates are reasonable for attorneys practicing complex commercial litigation. I have been involved with numerous applications for attorney fees, both in state court and federal court. I am also familiar with the hourly billing rates charged by other law firms in the greater Salt Lake City area. Hatch Law Group's standard hourly billing rates are on the high end for attorneys practicing complex commercial litigation. However, like some other trial attorneys in Salt Lake City, our experience, our efficiency and our track record are such that clients pay and courts award our standard hourly rates – nevertheless I have agreed to a discount on my standard fee. It is my opinion that Hatch Law Group's professional hourly rates are reasonable generally and are reasonable for this type of case.

- 11. When our firm was engaged by Red Ledges, Red Ledges agreed that my firm would be reimbursed for actual costs advanced by my firm in connection with this litigation.
- 12. The legal work performed on behalf of Defendant since February 27, 2021, and the above individuals' contributions, including my own, are set forth in the table below, which shows the amount of time each person worked on the matter, each person's effective hourly rate for purposes of this matter, and the total amount of fees billed for their work:

Hatch Law Group Employee	Title	Hourly Rate	Hours Billed	Fees Billed
name				
Hatch, Brent O.	Partner	\$650	13.4	\$8,700
Snow, Tyler V.	Senior Attorney	\$400	60.7	\$24,280
Bronchella, Grace	Paralegal	\$125	0.4	\$50.00
	TOTAL		74.5	\$33,040.00

- 13. Attached hereto as Exhibit 1 is a copy of Hatch Law Group's billing history with respect to this matter, from February 27, 2021 through January 13, 2022. I have redacted some information from the descriptions of activities on account of the attorney-client privilege and the work product doctrine, and/or where the activities were not relevant to our defense of this case (such as if the activities were for the parties' pending arbitration). However, I have largely kept the descriptions of services intact.
- 14. The following actions were taken in this case, which justify the amount of work performed and the amount of fees incurred:
 - a. Preparing the original motion for attorney fees;
 - b. Preparing a declaration associated therewith;
 - c. Preparing a reply in support of the original motion for attorney fees, including supporting Red Ledges' right to fees and the reasonableness of the fees;
 - d. Work on notice of supplemental authority;
 - e. Prepare "full briefing" response (as requested by the Court, ECF No. 39) to Plaintiffs' objection to Magistrate Judge Pead's award of fees; and

- f. Other related work to establish Red Ledges' right to fees.
- 15. Attached hereto as Exhibit 2 is a copy of costs incurred from February 27, 2021 through January 13, 2022. These costs were for the following:

a.	Fees and disbursements for printing:	\$2	03.70
b.	Legal research charges:	\$3	43.10
c.	Costs to download court filings:	\$	6.00
d.	Total:	\$5	52.80

- 16. After reviewing Hatch Law Group's costs and fees for these services, I determined that (excepting entries on Exhibit 1 labeled "I" for "irrelevant" vis-à-vis this proceeding, which have been deducted) all of the hours devoted to establishing Red Ledges' right to fees were necessary and reasonable. I determined that all of Red Ledges' fees and costs submitted herewith are compensable.
- 17. I utilized a specific methodology in an effort to identify compensable fees and costs from the attorney fees and costs incurred by Red Ledges through the present. I reviewed the billing entries and files in this case and determined that all entries on the attached (excepting those entries that have been carved out) involve work towards the same goal, i.e., of Red Ledges being awarded its fees and costs associated with defending against Plaintiffs' claims.
- 18. Based on my experience with the claims, allegations, defenses, and contentions involved in this litigation, the amounts asserted in this action justified the time and amount of work devoted to this matter. Moreover, the results obtained justified the time and work necessary to pursue Red Ledges' right to attorney fees and costs.
- 19. The total amount of attorney fees incurred by Red Ledges in connection with this action is \$33,040, in addition to expenses of \$552.80, from February 27, 2021 through January 13, 2022. Based on the foregoing summary, I believe that the attorney fees and expenses incurred by Defendant, while represented by Hatch Law Group, in connection with this action are reasonable.
- 20. I believe that the requested amount of \$3,000 in fees associated with the filing of this motion and the anticipated reply memorandum are likely to be incurred and are also reasonable and necessary.

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States and the State of Utah that the foregoing is true and correct.

DATED this 18th day of January, 2022.

By: /s/ Brent O. Hatch
Brent O. Hatch

Exhibit 1

Billing List

Print | Close Window

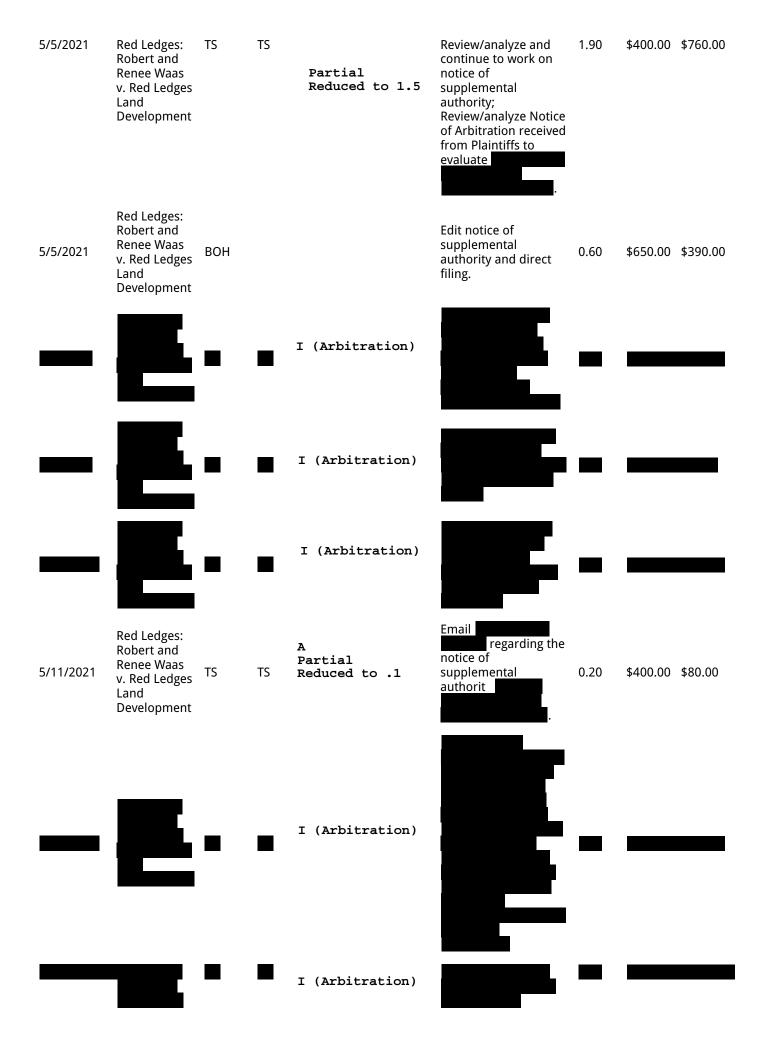
Codes used under Explanation column:
I = Irrelevant in this setting
A = Attorney-Client Privilege
WP = Work Product Doctrine
Partial = Partially related to this setting

INVOICED AND UN-INVOICED TIME ✔

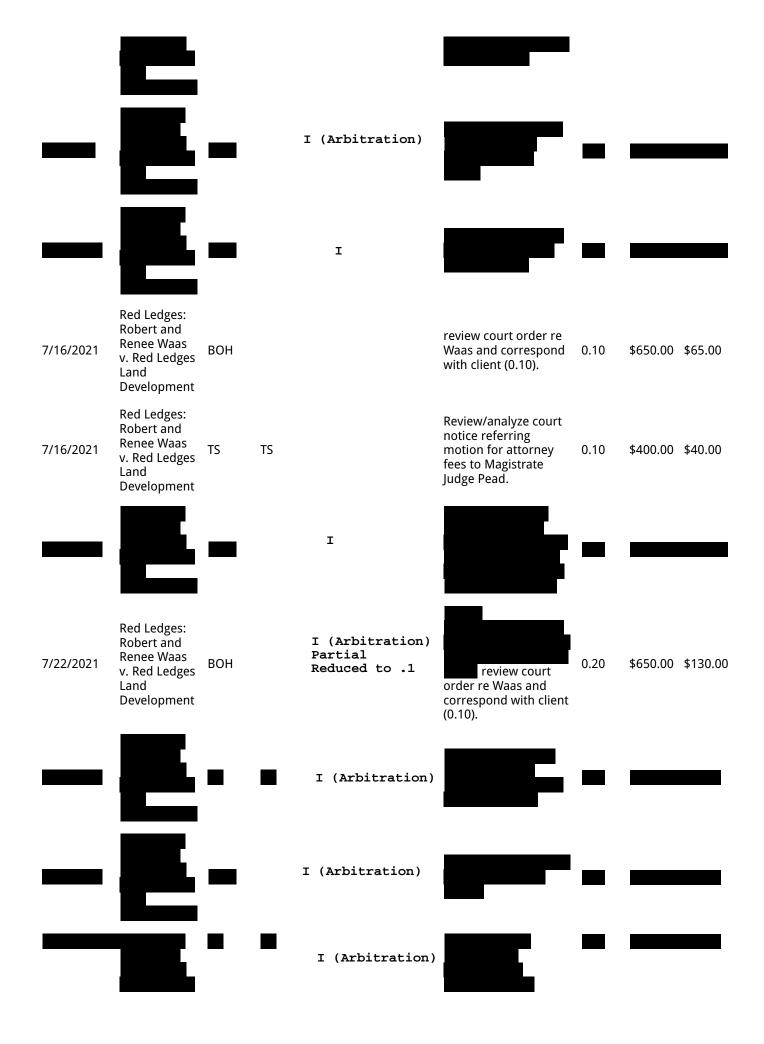
Date	Client Name	Project	Timekeeper	LEDES Task	LEDES Activity	Description	Hours	Rate	Amount
3/1/2021	Red Ledges: Robert and Renee Waas v. Red Ledges Land Development	вон	Expl	anatio	on	Answer client questions; edit draft motion for fees; edit declaration; advise re invoice redactions.	0.80	\$650.00	\$520.00
3/1/2021	Red Ledges: Robert and Renee Waas v. Red Ledges Land Development	TS	TS			Review/analyze and work on motion for award of attorney fees and expenses, and Declaration of Brent Hatch in support; Make redactions to billing sheets.	3.40	\$400.00	\$1,360.0
3/2/2021	Red Ledges: Robert and Renee Waas v. Red Ledges Land Development	вон				Edit final version of motion for fees; edit declaration of Hatch; calls with M. Burns re same and related issues.	2.00	\$650.00	\$1,300.0
3/2/2021	Red Ledges: Robert and Renee Waas v. Red Ledges Land Development	TS	TS			Review/analyze and continue to work on motion for attorney fees and declaration supporting it.	2.50	\$400.00	\$1,000.0
3/3/2021	Red Ledges: Robert and Renee Waas v. Red Ledges Land Development	вон				Call and advise M. Burns	0.10	\$650.00	\$65.00
3/9/2021	Red Ledges: Robert and Renee Waas v. Red Ledges Land Development	TS	TS			Review/analyze and evaluate whether to agree to plaintiffs' request for an extension.	0.10	\$400.00	\$40.00
3/26/2021	Red Ledges: Robert and Renee Waas v. Red Ledges Land Development	TS	TS			Review/analyze plaintiff's opposition to our motion for attorney fees.	0.10	\$400.00	\$40.00
4/1/2021	Red Ledges: Robert and Renee Waas	TS	TS			Evaluate strategy for our reply in support of motion for attorney	0.20	\$400.00	\$80.00

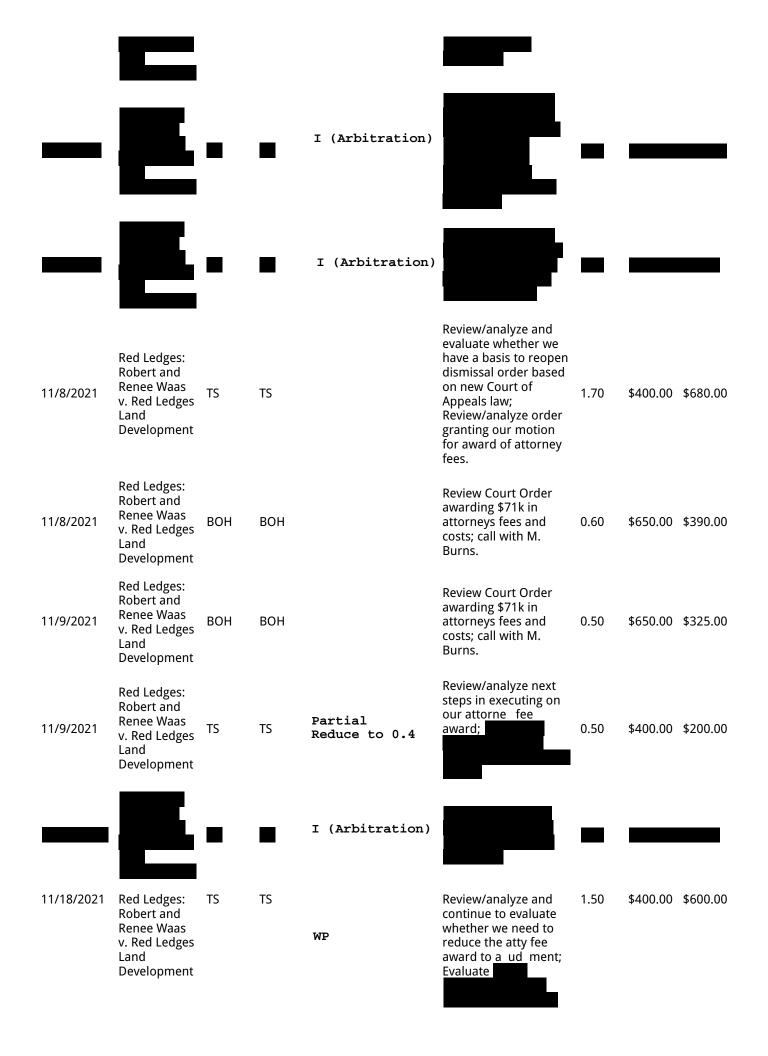
	v. Red Ledges Land Development			fees; Email from the client regarding the status of the case.			
4/2/2021	Red Ledges: Robert and Renee Waas v. Red Ledges Land Development	TS	TS	Review/analyze the cases cited by plaintiffs in their opposition to motion to dismiss to prepare to draft reply; Email update to the client.	0.40	\$400.00	\$160.00
4/6/2021	Red Ledges: Robert and Renee Waas v. Red Ledges Land Development	TS	TS	Review/analyze case law cited by Plaintiffs to prepare to draft reply iso motion for attorney fees.	1.30	\$400.00	\$520.00
4/7/2021	Red Ledges: Robert and Renee Waas v. Red Ledges Land Development	TS	TS	Continue to evaluate case law regarding prevailing party to prepare to draft reply in support of motion for attorney fees.	5.40	\$400.00	\$2,160.00
4/7/2021	Red Ledges: Robert and Renee Waas v. Red Ledges Land Development	TS	TS	Emails with the client regarding the status of the case and settlement.	0.20	\$400.00	\$80.00
4/7/2021	Red Ledges: Robert and Renee Waas v. Red Ledges Land Development	вон		Outline arguments and advise re draft.	0.50	\$650.00	\$325.00
4/8/2021	Red Ledges: Robert and Renee Waas v. Red Ledges Land Development	вон		Provide data and law for draft.	0.50	\$650.00	\$325.00
4/8/2021	Red Ledges: Robert and Renee Waas v. Red Ledges Land Development	TS	TS	Review/analyze and evaluate arguments related to plaintiffs' reasonable attorney fee objection and the standard for evaluating prevailing party based on a contract provision; Prepare reply in support of motion for attorney fees and costs.	8.40	\$400.00	\$3,360.00
4/9/2021	Red Ledges: Robert and Renee Waas v. Red Ledges Land Development	PARA		Review and file Motion to award attorney's fees, and email to relevant parties.	0.40	\$125.00	\$50.00

4/9/2021	Red Ledges: Robert and Renee Waas v. Red Ledges Land Development	TS	TS		Continue to work on reply in support of motion for attorney fees; Work on proposed order granting the motion; Work on request to submit.	3.50	\$400.00	\$1,400.00
4/9/2021	Red Ledges: Robert and Renee Waas v. Red Ledges Land Development	вон			Edit brief and add new materials.	3.00	\$650.00	\$1,950.00
4/12/2021	Red Ledges: Robert and Renee Waas v. Red Ledges Land Development	вон			Call with T. Smith re mediation/settlement.	0.30	\$650.00	\$195.00
	E	•	•	I (Arbitration)				
4/15/2021	Red Ledges: Robert and Renee Waas v. Red Ledges Land Development	вон			Draft setttlement offer to Waas; correspond with M. Burns re same.	0.30	\$650.00	\$195.00
4/16/2021	Red Ledges: Robert and Renee Waas v. Red Ledges Land Development	вон			Finalize with M. Burns and send to Waas counsel.	0.10	\$650.00	\$65.00
	E			I				_
5/4/2021	Red Ledges: Robert and Renee Waas v. Red Ledges Land Development	TS	TS	A, WP	; Review/analyze and work on notice of supplemental authority in further support of our motion for award of attorney fees.	1.50	\$400.00	\$600.00





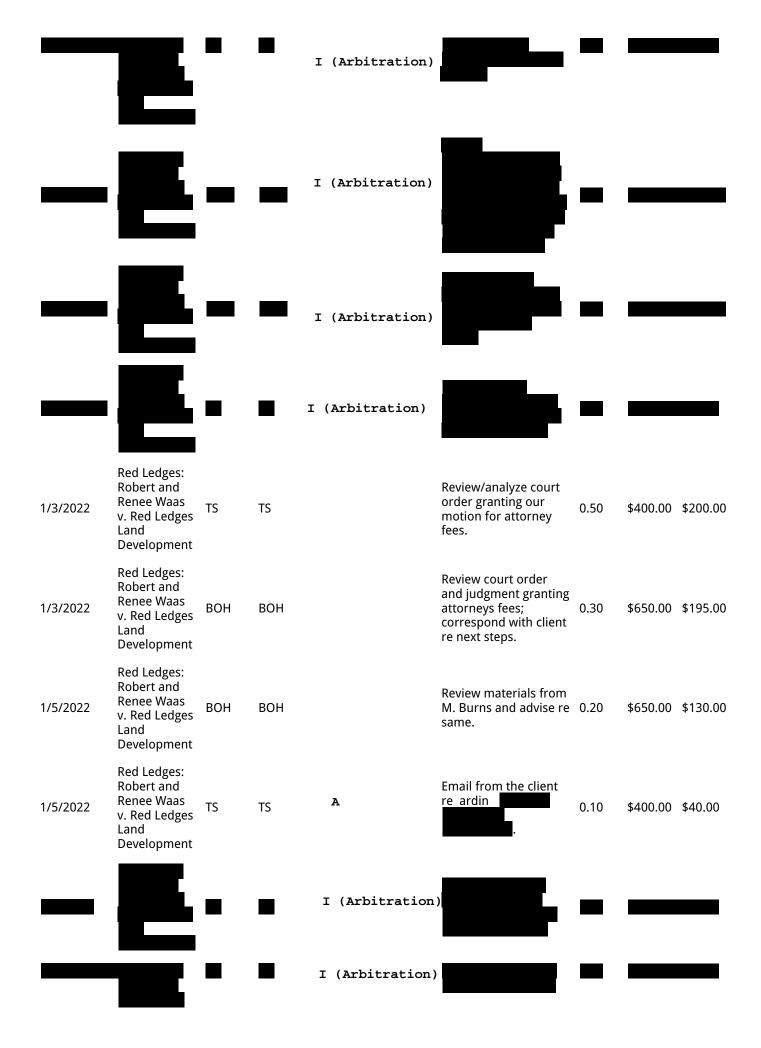




; Work o	n
application for writ	of
execution.	

11/18/2021	Red Ledges: Robert and Renee Waas v. Red Ledges Land Development	вон	вон	WP	draft response for RL use; call with Mitchel re Waas strategy.	0.60	\$650.00	\$390.00
11/19/2021	Red Ledges: Robert and Renee Waas v. Red Ledges Land Development	TS	TS	Partial Reduce to .6	Continue to evaluate how to collect our attorney fee award (including for how long the plaintiffs have to ob ect	0.70	\$400.00	\$280.00
11/22/2021	Red Ledges: Robert and Renee Waas v. Red Ledges Land Development	TS	TS		Review/analyze Waas' objection to magistrate's ruling and the associated case law to prepare to draft our response.	1.00	\$400.00	\$400.00
11/23/2021	Red Ledges: Robert and Renee Waas v. Red Ledges Land Development	TS	TS		Work on response to plaintiffs' objection to magistrate's ruling.	2.30	\$400.00	\$920.00
11/23/2021	Red Ledges: Robert and Renee Waas v. Red Ledges Land Development	вон	вон		Review Waas objection to Magistrate atty fee order; review Order re briefing; call with M. Burns re same.	0.50	\$650.00	\$325.00
11/24/2021	Red Ledges: Robert and Renee Waas v. Red Ledges Land Development	вон	вон	Partial Reduce to .1	Call with T. Smith re fees issues.	0.20	\$650.00	\$130.00
11/29/2021	Red Ledges: Robert and Renee Waas v. Red Ledges Land Development	TS	TS		Review/analyze and continue to evaluate case law re: attorney fee awards to prepare to draft response to plaintiff's magistrate objection.	4.60	\$400.00	\$1,840.00
11/30/2021	Red Ledges: Robert and Renee Waas v. Red Ledges Land Development	TS	TS		A104: Review/analyze and continue to do research to prepare to draft response to plaintiffs' objection to magistrate's ruling.	4.90	\$400.00	\$1,960.00
	E		-	I (Arbitration)				

12/1/2021	Red Ledges: Robert and Renee Waas v. Red Ledges Land Development	TS	TS		Continue to evaluate case law regarding attorney fees to the prevailing party under Utah law to prepare response to plaintiffs' objection to magistrate ruling; Work on response to plaintiffs' objection to magistrate ruling.	5.40	\$400.00	\$2,160.00
12/2/2021	Red Ledges: Robert and Renee Waas v. Red Ledges Land Development	TS	TS		Review/analyze and continue to work on response to plaintiffs' objection to magistrate's ruling.	4.70	\$400.00	\$1,880.00
12/3/2021	Red Ledges: Robert and Renee Waas v. Red Ledges Land Development	TS	TS		Review/analyze and continue to work on response to objection filed by plaintiffs.	2.10	\$400.00	\$840.00
12/6/2021	Red Ledges: Robert and Renee Waas v. Red Ledges Land Development	TS	TS		Review/analyze and continue to work on response to Waases' objection.	1.90	\$400.00	\$760.00
12/6/2021	Red Ledges: Robert and Renee Waas v. Red Ledges Land Development	вон	вон	Partial Reduce to 2.2	Edit opposition to objection; review research and further edits 2.20;	2.30	\$650.00	\$1,495.00
	E		-	I (Arbitration				
	E	•	•	I (Arbitration)				
12/10/2021	Red Ledges: Robert and Renee Waas v. Red Ledges Land Development	TS	TS	A Partial Reduce to .1	Update to regarding the order awarding attorney fees, plaintiffs' ob ection, our re 1,	0.20	\$400.00	\$80.00
	E	•	■ I	(Arbitration)		-		_



TOTALS	107.10	\$48,080.00

74.5 \$33,040.00

Exhibit 2

Expense List

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Date	Client Name	Project	Туре	Description	Quantity	Unit	Amount
			76-			Amount	
3/31/2021	Red Ledges: Robert and Renee Waas v. Red Ledges Land Development	Expenses	B&W Copies		151.00	0.150	\$22.65
4/30/2021	Red Ledges: Robert and Renee Waas v. Red Ledges Land Development	Expenses	B&W Copies		778.00	0.150	\$116.70
4/30/2021	Red Ledges: Robert and Renee Waas v. Red Ledges Land Development	Expenses	Online Research Charges	Online Research			\$103.83
4/30/2021	Red Ledges: Robert and Renee Waas v. Red Ledges Land Development	Expenses	Court Xchange Downloads	Court Documents Downloads	2.00	1.000	\$2.00
5/31/2021	Red Ledges: Robert and Renee Waas v. Red Ledges Land Development	Expenses	Online Research Charges				\$18.17
11/8/2021	Red Ledges: Robert and Renee Waas v. Red Ledges Land Development	Expenses	Court Xchange Downloads	Court document downloads.	1.00	4.000	\$4.00
12/31/2021	Red Ledges: Robert and Renee Waas v. Red Ledges Land Development	Expenses	Online Research Charges	Online Research.	1.00	221.100	\$221.10
12/31/2021	Red Ledges: Robert and Renee Waas v. Red Ledges Land Development	Expenses	B&W Copies		429.00	0.150	\$64.35
TOTALS					1,362.00		\$552.80